

We learn that Prof. F. P. Brewer of the University, has been appointed U. S. Consul at Piræus in Greece, and will leave for his post in a few weeks. Correspondents can still address him at Chapel Hill, where his family will remain.

THE COMMUNICATION OF "CONSERVATIVE" is from the pen of an eminent member of the Conservative party, who has been frequently highly honored by it, and who now fills a high position in the Government. It speaks the sentiments of many thousands of the best men of that party.

THE ARTICLE OVER the signature of "An Old Typo," in relation to the public printing, is from a respectable and responsible source. The writer being a practical printer, who has investigated the matter, his statements are entitled to respect and consideration. According to this statement the present rate of printing is 14 cents per page more for printing the impeachment trial, and the public laws, than Littlefield received per page for like work. Yet the present printer contracted to do the printing at 75 cents per thousand ems, while Littlefield was paid one dollar. Add to this the appreciation of the currency since then and it will appear that the present printer received over 40 cents per page more than Littlefield did, in the then currency of the country.

Desolation.

In those districts of country overrun by Federal troops in South Carolina, and terror-stricken at the approach of United States Marshals and detachments of Federal cavalry in North Carolina, the people have abandoned everything, men, women and children flying before the military forces and civil officers of the United States Government.

This sounds like a romance, but it is no romance. It is the simple working of the despotic, tyrannical, and unchristian power of the Federal Government warring on the civil institutions of the country; the strong arm of military authority attempting to create the civil law; it is the supremacy of the military over the civil authority of the country, and the result is the destruction of the liberty of the citizen, and the reign of terror consequent thereon.—North Carolinian.

The condition of things in the sections spoken of are bad enough, and the desolation is deplorable indeed. But still it is greatly exaggerated and is confined to but small localities. And bad as things are they are yet very far removed from the ravages and desolation produced by the late attempt to disrupt the Union. When Gen. Jackson sent forces to South Carolina in 1822 a fluttering similar to that now prevailing was created. But the result was that the Union was saved and civil war, for the time, averted. If James Buchanan had taken the proper steps and concentrated all the available land and naval forces—all on board a fleet—in Charleston harbor in October and November 1859 the late civil war, with all its horrors, might have been prevented. Such a course then would have given rise to more clamors than we now hear against President Grant, but it would not have failed of success.—Such a demonstration on the part of the then President would have convinced the secessionists that the entire people of the North would rally around the old flag, and sustain the government in its efforts to prevent the secession of the Southern States. And they only needed to be so convinced to have led them to abandon the mad project. And the present movements of President Grant will have the effect of preventing sufferings compared with which those referred to by The Carolinian might almost be considered blessings.

It is due to The Carolinian to say that it attributes the action of the Federal authorities to the proper causes, and labors earnestly for their removal. The Ku Klux, and their outrages, which have given rise to the Federal intervention complained of, find no favor with The Carolinian. And if all the Democratic papers would pursue the course which that paper, The Nashville Banner and The Augusta (Ga.) Constitutionalist have taken, these things would soon cease. The States would soon be remitted entirely to their own self government again.

Gov. Robinson's Politeness.

The Kentucky people get off the following anecdote on Governor James F. Robinson and Judge Duvall, which has been long current in the circle of their friends, but, we believe has never been in print before:

"The Governor is a relic of the old Virginia gentlemen—stately, courteous and unpretentious in exercising the rights of hospitality. One day he had invited Judge Duvall to ride with him. Arriving at the toll-gate the Judge was about to pay the toll, when Governor Robinson interposed, saying: 'Duvall, I have been trying for years to make a gentleman of you but have not succeeded. When a gentleman asks you to ride he does not expect you to pay expenses.' At this the Judge laughed quietly and returned his pocket-book to its place. Hiding on and reaching a gate that was shut, Duvall sat still while the Governor waited for him to descend and open the gate. After waiting a minute, during which neither spoke a word, Duvall said with a merry chuckle in his voice: 'I would get down and open that gate, but I suppose that when one is asked by a gentleman to take a ride he is not expected to work his way.' The Governor silently and solemnly descended and opened the gate."

Constitutional Amendments.

The General Assembly convened at the Capitol of the State, in this city, on Monday. In a few days it will be fully engaged in the business of the session. It will have several important duties to perform, and it is hoped that it will prove itself fully equal to them. It is hoped that it will discard party, and legislate for the general good of the State.

Of all the duties devolving on the Legislature at its present session, none is so momentous as that of amending the State Constitution. That that instrument should be amended in several important and material particulars, is conceded by all parties. This being the case all parties should join in the work. The making and amending of Organic laws should never be made party questions. If they are the people, as a whole, will never be satisfied with their Constitution. This is no new doctrine with this writer—it is the ground he took last summer when discussing the question through the columns of another journal. And it seems to him to be more important at the present juncture, if possible, than it was then. One of the questions generally admitted to have been settled at the election in August last is, that whatever amendments are indispensable now shall be made by the legislative mode.

If by the Legislative mode any considerable number of amendments shall be attempted by a party, as a party measure, in an omnibus bill, they will fail. This can easily be demonstrated. Such a bill must receive the votes of three-fifths of all the members of each House of the present General Assembly, and two-thirds of all the members of each House of the next General Assembly. The Democrats have the necessary three-fifths of the present Legislature, and can pass whatever bill they please; provided, they shall be able to unite all their members upon it. Whether they can unite them upon all the amendments proposed by the Democratic address, embodied into one bill, remains to be seen. Judging from the tone of the Democratic press of the State, it is reasonable to suppose that they cannot. But suppose that they should be able to draw party lines sufficiently close to pass such a bill at the present session, what assurance have they that they can secure the requisite two-thirds majority for it in the next Legislature? None whatever. This has been clearly demonstrated by the result of the election in August last. The present Legislature was elected under peculiar circumstances—such as are not likely to occur again. Therefore it is safe to say that neither party will be able to secure anything like a two-thirds majority in the next Legislature. And if not then all the work of the present session will have been lost, should such a course be adopted. No amendments can be gotten through for years by either party, as a party measure.

What course, then, ought to be taken? Let party be discarded entirely in the matter. Let the various amendments be divided into classes. Let all those amendments upon which both parties agree constitute the first class, and be embodied into one bill. This will certainly secure to the people those amendments which are most important, and for which they are most anxious. Then let those about which there may be some little doubt constitute the second class, and be embodied into a second bill. Let those about which there is a greater division of sentiment constitute a third class, and be embodied into a third bill. And if thought necessary let some of the most important amendments, about which there is more diversity of sentiment, be submitted to the people separately. If this course is pursued, it is believed that the several bills can be passed, both by the present and the next Legislature, by nearly a unanimous vote. It is believed that the Republicans will readily agree to submit any number of amendments to the people; provided, they are submitted in such manner as to allow the people to accept of such as they approve, and reject such as they disapprove. They are not afraid to trust the people, and, we believe, will not refuse their sanction to the plan here suggested. It is believed that it is the only plan that will secure to the people the reforms which they demand.

And how shall the proceedings be inaugurated? The answer is easy. Let a joint select committee of the ablest and best members of both parties be raised at once to consider the question of constitutional reform. Let that committee prepare and report the necessary bills, to carry out the plan suggested. If this is done the people will be relieved, and the members severally, upon their return to their constituents, will be welcomed with the plaudits of "well done thou good and faithful servant."

It has not been thought proper at this time, to enter into any discussion as to what particular amendments should constitute the several classes, or be submitted separately. If it should seem to become necessary and proper to do so, it will be done hereafter. At present it might seem like dictation to the members of that body, and rather tend to embarrass them than otherwise. The intention of this article is only to make a suggestion to the Legislature, and give the reasons upon which it is based. No party advantage is sought—no object aimed at but the welfare and prosperity of the good people of North Carolina. And to this end we invoke the aid of our brethren of the press of all shades of political opinion, and of all thinking and patriotic men, out of the Legislature as well as in it.

Tod-dledum and Tweed-leece.

Littlefield, Republican, and his ring, stole from the State of North Carolina some ten millions of dollars. He fled the State under a Republican administration, and under a Republican administration he dare not return to the State of North Carolina.

Tweed, a Democrat, and his ring, stole from the city of New York over a hundred millions, yet under a Democratic administration he remains in New York, is safe from the power of the law as administered by democrats, and has actually been elected by his party to the Senate of that State.

H. H. Roberts, a clerk in the employment of the Republican Auditor of Public Accounts, forged drafts on the Treasury to the amount of four or five hundred dollars. He, too, has left the State, but not until the Republican authorities had lodged him in jail for his crime; and he was only relieved by parties becoming his bail, knowing that he would leave, to lighten the disgrace on a respectable family of innocent persons.

It appears that this man Roberts was in collusion with the State Printer; as the referee of the Printer's accounts he certified them to be correct, when it is a matter of record that the State Printer made out his accounts so much in excess of the value of the work actually performed as to gouge the State out of more than three thousand dollars.

Yet the State Printer walks the streets unmolested, and like Tweed, wields a great political power in the land of his nativity, while Littlefield and Roberts are driven beyond the reach of the State authorities.

Is this the difference between Tod-dledum and Tweed-leece—Republicanism and Democracy, or does it better illustrate the difference between Democratic scallawags and Republican carpet-baggers?

When we see the action which the Legislature takes in relation to the Public Printing we can tell more about it.

Correspondence.

RALEIGH, N. C., Nov. 17, 1871. To the Editor of The Era.—My attention has been called to an article in your paper of Wednesday, in which it is asserted that there was collusion between the public printer and the forger, Roberts, to defraud the State in the accounts of the public printing.

This statement is scandalous and false, and damaging to me. If untrue it ought not to be made or published; if true it ought to be fully and legally substantiated, and I propose giving you an opportunity to establish the truth of the charges, you have thus publicly made, before the proper legal tribunal of the State, unless there be a full and unconditional retrial of the charge, through the same channel in which it was made.

With due respect, JAMES H. MOORE, State Printer.

OFFICE OF THE CAROLINA ERA, RALEIGH, N. C., Nov. 18, 1871. To Mr. James H. Moore,

Public Printer: Six—Yours of the 17th is to hand, in which you say that your attention has been called to an article in THE ERA of Wednesday, "in which it is asserted that there was a collusion between the public printer and the forger, Roberts, to defraud the State in the accounts of the public printing."

If you will examine the article again you will see that you are mistaken, in saying that anything of the kind "is asserted." The language is as follows: "It appears that this man Roberts was in collusion with the State Printer; as a referee of the Printer's accounts he certified them to be correct, when it is a matter of record that the State Printer made out his accounts so much in excess of the value of the work actually performed as to gouge the State out of more than three thousand dollars."

From the above it is plain that nothing is charged, only appearances are given. Nothing of the kind you speak of "is asserted"—nothing of the kind was meant to be "asserted." This is plain from the following extract from THE ERA of this day, which, it is fair to presume, you have not seen:

"The (Sentinel) has only denied that the Public Printer was in collusion with H. H. Roberts, a fact not at all material to the matter in controversy, and one that was not charged positively, but only from appearances. We give The Sentinel the benefit of this denial, an act of justice which we never received at its hands."

To the above the following sentence, already in print before the receipt of your letter, has been added in THE WEEKLY ERA:

"Yet it seems strange that The Sentinel should become so excited at a mere suggestion, founded upon appearances, as to the manner in which the payment of the excess was secured, without being able to deny the fact itself—the manner of the thing being wholly immaterial."

The foregoing must be sufficient to convince you, not only that nothing of the kind you complain of was "asserted," but that nothing of the kind was intended to be "asserted." The whole question will, doubtless, undergo a thorough investigation by a competent and impartial committee, and THE ERA will be the first paper in the State to give you the benefit of any report it may make in vindication of your conduct in relation to the public printing, and also to declare editorially that there was no foundation for any such charge, as you mistakenly suppose has been made against you through its columns, should such be shown to be the case.

Allow me to add, that I regard it as extremely unfortunate for you, as well as for your friends, that you are unable to contradict what was actually charged in the article referred to in THE ERA of Wednesday, ("that the State Printer made out his accounts so much in excess of the value of the work actually performed as to gouge the State out of more than three thousand dollars,") as readily and positively as you have contradicted what you imagined was charged in relation to a collusion with Roberts.

With proper respect, LEWIS HANES.

The Raleigh Sentinel.

The many obligations, which THE ERA and this editor are under to THE Sentinel, demand a recognition, with a frank expression of our appreciation of them. To THE Sentinel is this paper indebted for a name, that will not only be as enduring as time, but that will never fail to awaken patriotic emotions in the breasts of all who are still capable of such sentiments. As long as the American nationality exists, will the "LONG PERRY" be mentioned in connection with one of the noblest and brightest achievements of American naval warfare. And, in the language of the Long Perry who commanded in that ever memorable engagement, it is believed it will soon be able to say: "We have met the enemy and they are ours." The idea that this paper will forever be associated in the minds of men with "Perry's Victory" creates within the hearts of its friends a feeling of pride and exultation which they can find no language adequate to express.

The Sentinel, by its great and noble qualities, has attained by universal consent, the summit of grandeur, power and greatness. It has reached the Paopay, in its especial domain, and is endowed with the powers of abolition, excommunication and condemnation. It can "kill and make alive." Upon whomsoever its condemnation rests, it sinks to perdition; and upon whomsoever its blessing rests, it elevates to the sublimest heights of felicity. And this editor has been the happy recipient of the highest honor in its power to bestow. From His Holiness, JOSIAH I OF THE SENTINEL, he has received the very distinguished honor of canonization, even in his lifetime. He is now known and honored throughout the world as a SAINT, and chiefly known and honored as such, because of the supremely elevated and magnanimous character of the Sovereign Pontiff by whose grace and favor he was canonized.—No earthly honor can equal that contained in this title, so graciously bestowed, and so thankfully received and highly appreciated. His descendants to the latest generation, will treasure it up with a just and honest pride, on account of the illustrious source from which it was derived. Already, are his little grand children learning to lip the name of SAINT LEWIS, and to inform visitors that he is their "grand papa." And he would be unworthy of such honor, if he failed to acknowledge it, with assurances of his most distinguished consideration, and to make all the return for the same in his power. This he proposes to do by doing for THE SENTINEL, what its characteristic modesty prevents it from doing for itself—by pointing out and publishing its many transcendent excellencies.

Though it has scarcely completed the sixth year of its existence, THE Sentinel has already established a reputation second to that of no journal in the world. At its first appearance it assumed to itself the very highest standard of excellence then known in this country. Its respected founder, the late and much lamented Wm. E. Pell, in his prospectus, announced, that he should take the old NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER as his model. He declared, that he should labor to bring THE Sentinel up to the high standard of that paper, in the palmy days of Gales and Seaton. Subsequently, Mr. Pell associated with himself in its management, that true man and accomplished gentleman, Major Seaton Gales, nephew of the great editor of THE INTELLIGENCER.—Together they labored faithfully and earnestly to elevate it to the high standard of the model they had chosen. How far they succeeded in their laudable efforts, is as well known to our readers as to ourselves. It is no disparagement to them, as high-toned and able journalists, to say, that they failed to reach the mark of their high and proud ambition. Under their management THE Sentinel became one of the leading papers of the South, and sustained a reputation that most journalists might well envy. But it never quite attained to the high standard of excellence, which it assumed to itself when it commenced publication. Indeed, until after Messrs. Pell and Gales retired from THE Sentinel, that standard was never reached by any journal on this continent—perhaps by none in the world.

It was reserved for Mr. Pell's successor to do for THE Sentinel what, with the assistance of Major Gales, he was unable to do for it himself. Under its present management THE Sentinel soon rose to a far higher standard of excellence than that which it had chosen for imitation. It soon became renowned throughout the world, wherever the English language is read or spoken—renowned not for its excellence in any one of its features, or in any one department of journalism, but in all that goes to make up the perfect journal in its various departments. Its language is the purest and most nervous English; its wit of more than attic elegance. And no matter to what subject its editorials may be devoted the same lofty and elegant style is maintained in its purity and simplicity.

But these qualities, valuable and attractive as they are, are scarcely to be mentioned among its chief excellencies. So numerous indeed, and so various are its virtues, that it is difficult to determine to which precedence should be given. After the most patient consideration we have been able to give the subject, with our very feeble powers of discrimination, we have arrived at the conclusion, that the wisdom and profundity of its statesmanship, and the modesty of its editorial language are entitled to the highest place and the first distinction. Its editorials on questions of practical statesmanship, with which it so much abounds, manifest an

ability to deal with such questions equal to Pericles and Ximenes, and much superior to that of any other statesman of more recent times. Nor has it confined itself to able articles, on questions of practical statesmanship; in speculative statesmanship it has soared still higher. Its essays in both departments will be sought after in all future time, as the ablest State papers that have ever been given to the world at any period of man's history. In purity of style, power of logic and amplitude of comprehension; in massiveness of ideas and profound and eloquent reasoning; in copiousness of language and beauty and elegance of diction, these essays have been approached, though not equalled, by Alexander Hamilton, Daniel Webster and Edmund Burke.—They have completely thrown into the shade all the splendid efforts of Gales and Seaton, never before equaled by any journalist in this, or any other, country. Nor is it at all probable that the world will ever again witness such wonderful ability.

For modesty THE Sentinel is as renowned as for its unrivalled statesmanship. In reading the noble essays and elegant dissertations, which enrich and adorn its editorial columns, few are able to discern that the writer is aware of his own existence. Certainly none are able to discover that he considers his being of any consequence to society or the State. His ideas, his thoughts and his language, all seem to flow, without the slightest effort, from some great natural fountain, like a river from a great lake. The pronoun WE, so profusely and disgustingly used in the picaresque papers of the day, seldom finds a place in the editorial columns of THE Sentinel. Taken altogether, in this respect, it is the most perfect model of which we have any account.

Besides these, and its unparalleled excellence as a newspaper, it has yet many great and shining qualities. Its security it is a total stranger, and it rarely indulges in personalities. Its staidness and dignity of character, combined with its high moral tone, has done a great and wonderful work for the press of North Carolina. By the aid of this it has succeeded in shaming into comparative decency, the larger part of the press of the State, formerly so much addicted to low abuse, not to say blackguardism. The name of no female is ever mentioned in its columns, except such as have won distinction by the dignity and propriety of their conduct, and the purity of their lives, and then only that their example may have its due and exalting influence, for the refinement and improvement of our race. Its fairness surpasses that of all other journals. It was never known to be guilty of the meanness of some of its contemporaries, in holding an editor responsible for the statements of his local, or treating his correspondence as if it were to be taken as expressive of his own views and sentiments. Its vehement but dignified denunciation of such conduct, has had a most happy effect in elevating the tone and character of journalism in North Carolina. The value of such a journal to the age in which it flourishes, can only be properly understood and appreciated by posterity. Its bright example will survive fresh and green in the memory of many generations, and its effulgence will light up the pathway of the journalist all down the vista of coming ages.

Not feeling that this feeble effort is all that is demanded of our gratitude to THE Sentinel, the subject will be resumed after the lapse of a brief period. It will then be our duty and our pleasure to present other points of great and surpassing excellence in its character.—And we may give the reader a faint glimpse of that palatial suburban residence, purchased for its editor by the gratitude of his countrymen in 1870.—We may take occasion to describe the proudly embowered domain, presented with the palace-like mansion; its shaded walks and winding avenues; its gurgling fountains and beautiful shrubbery. And we may also suggest the plan of some more enduring and appropriate monument to his splendid fame. For it is eminently fit and proper that such a journalist as the editor of THE Sentinel, should have erected to his memory some such monument as the gratitude of mankind usually decrees to distinguished benefactors of the human race. If he lived in England he would find his last resting place in Westminster Abbey, hard by the modest memorials erected to the editors of THE SPECTATOR and THE RAMBLER. But however eminently appropriate and fit this arrangement cannot be. England is not yet sufficiently democratic to allow that honor to an American, however great and deserving of such honors he may be.

A certain State paper seems to think that nobody has any right to criticize anything the Executive Committee has put forth in the address. We think this is presuming a good deal. We for one will speak our sentiments regardless of consequences. We never speak, however, unless we think we are right.

That paper thinks the Committee is infallible. We suppose it is because the Address has straight out repudiation of private contracts in one of its provisions and individual oppression and despotism in another, &c., &c. It must be these provisions that commend it to that paper, as the others were before the people last Summer were not supported by that paper. It may, perhaps, all be accounted for when we remember that that paper has been living in both the Ku Klux and radical ranks.—Hickory Tavern Eagle, Democrat.

EARLY.—The canvass of 1872 will begin early. The Connecticut temperance men have called a State Convention to nominate candidates for State officers, to meet in New Haven, Dec. 13. On the same day the Democrats of New Hampshire will hold their State Convention in Concord. The labor reformers of New Hampshire will meet December 7.

The State Printing—Littlefield vs. Turner.

I have observed, in the editorials which have appeared in THE ERA in regard to the alleged high charges of the present State Printer, that the writer was evidently unacquainted with the subject which he wished brought before the public, from the bungling manner in which he handled the matter. In fact, the whole subject hangs upon a technical term, which only "the craft,"—as printers call themselves—understand. On that account, I have deemed it not inappropriate, to "proceed to explain."

It will be remembered that the present Legislature, when it met last winter, early brought up the question of the State Printing. It was affirmed by a great many, that the State was paying too much therefor—in fact, the Littlefield charges for the same, was made one of the hobbies of the campaign which resulted in the overthrow of the Radical party. In order to determine what was a fair price to pay the State Printer, the Legislature appointed a committee to examine into the matter and report. The committee, I understand, in order to arrive at a correct conclusion, summoned before them general proprietors of offices, and others, and obtained their opinion. I recollect the occasion when the committee of the House, through its chairman, Mr. Waring, of Mecklenburg, made its report. From what he stated to the House, I thought he had made a Capital bargain for the State. He stated that he had made a contract with the State Printer, which stipulated that he was to receive 75 cents per 1000 ems for the type setting, and 75 cents per token for press work, and dwelt upon the fact that by the contract no blank pages, or parts of blank pages were to be charged for, and that the State Printer would only receive pay for work done, and no such extortion as Littlefield charged would be perpetrated upon the State. These were nearly his identical words.

In order that the reader, unacquainted with the technical language of "ems" and "tokens," may understand, I will state that in every printing office the meaning of the term "em" is the square of the size of a type. If a certain kind of type in which a book is printed is one-sixth of an inch in depth from the top to the bottom of an inch the other way. In fact, an "em" is the square of a type, and when speaking printorially, is so understood all over the United States, and is so defined in Printers Text Books. A "token," however, has not the positive meaning of the "em." It varies in different States. In this State, it is invariably defined as 240 impressions of any job that may be printed. It is so expressed in the old law of the Revised Codes and in that same law, it was designed to pay the State Printer a certain price for every "token" of eight pages. That law was framed when all the paper on which the State Printing was done would only print eight pages on one side of a sheet. All the paper on which the State Printing is now printed is furnished double that size. But with the "token," in what I may now say, we will have nothing to do.

Well, let us see if Mr. Waring's assurances to the House hold good. In order to arrive at facts in the matter, I have taken the trouble to ascertain the truth of what I will relate. "Blank pages and parts of blank pages" are charged for by the State Printer. Any one disposed to examine the matter, I have no doubt will be accommodated by the Auditor. So, the State did not make as good a bargain as I thought. Now, we come to the "em." It seems that the State Printer has found another definition for this technicality. He charges by the letter "M" or rather m, which is considerably less in width than the quadrilateral "em" of the Printing office, and makes a vast difference in the cost of the Printing. In fact, by that novel manner of charging, the State is paying more for its printing than it did in the flush and palmy days of Littlefield, as I shall show to your perfect satisfaction. According to Littlefield's charges, as evidenced by bills filed in the Auditor's office, his pages contained 1323 ems. Littlefield, for his page, as he was paid (the way he counted) received about one dollar and thirty-two cents. The pages which the State Printer issues is of the same size, and according to his count contains 1550 ems. He receives 75 cents per thousand ems, and by his count he receives one dollar and forty-seven cents per page for type-set, or fourteen cents more than Littlefield's bought Legislature paid him! This is retrenchment with a vengeance! This statement, which any one disposed to question can investigate for himself, shows that we are now paying, because the State Printer "knows how to count," forty-seven cents per page more than if the pages had been counted by the technical em. I see it stated that the Public Printer has been paid about \$20,000 for State Printing for the current year. If this be so, he has received over \$5,000 more than he is entitled to.

I learn, that Mr. Moore, the de jure State Printer affirms that he made a contract with the Committee, and they understood and agreed that he should charge by the letter "em" instead of the quadrilateral—"em quad." This cannot be so. It was the object of the Legislature, and the Committee, to retrench and reduce expenses, and if the Committee agreed to any such manner of counting, they either were overreached by the then shrewd business manager of the de facto Printer, because they were dealing in technical terms of which they know nothing, or they are recreant to the sacred trust reposed in them.

The whole matter shows the necessity of reform in the manner of letting the State Printing. It would pay the State salary a Commissioner to examine printing and paper, and see that the printing was executed properly, properly charged for.

Editorial Correspondence.

A Terrible Tragedy—Immigration to Henderson County.

HENDERSONVILLE, Nov. 13, 1871. The Superior Court for this county is still in session, awaiting the determination of the jury, in the case of the States vs. Columbus, and Gowan, and Adair, and—Baynard charged with the murder of the Weston family, in the county of Rutherford, on the night of the 26th of April last. The indictment was removed, at the last term of Rutherford Court, by the State, to this county for trial, and the trial has been in progress here since last Tuesday.

The case was given to the jury on the afternoon of Saturday last, about 10 o'clock, and up to this time (Monday night) they have been unable to agree in their verdict. The testimony disclosed one of the most barbarous and cruel murders recorded in the history of crime in this State. The evidence of the only surviving witness of this atrocious deed, except an infant, the wife of one and the mother of the other parties slain, Polly Weston, a white woman, was substantially as follows: She, with her husband, Silas Weston, a mulatto man and their three children, David, Theodosia and an infant, and an illegitimate white child of hers, about twelve years old, born before cohabitation with Weston, had just finished their supper on the evening of the 26th of April last, about an hour after dark. She and the three children had risen from the table, Weston remained seated, feeding the baby. The woman Weston heard a growl from a dog outside, and went to a crack in the end of the house, near the chimney, to see, if possible, what had disturbed the dog. She placed her face against the wall to look out, when instantly a gun or pistol was fired into her face. She staggered back exclaiming, "I'm killed, God have mercy on us all." Three men burst open the door and rushed into the house, one of whom fired on her husband as he rose from the table, and again as he retreated to the other side of the house. The one who fired upon the man Weston, dragged him down and cut his throat. While this was going on, the third murderer deliberately shot down all the children, one after another, except the infant. Two of them then seized Polly Weston, the first shot having only burned her eye and face just around it, with the powder, and one of them attempted to shoot her again, but she struggled with him, and, by some means, the pistol failed to fire. Continuing the struggle for her life, they then inflicted seven wounds upon her with their knives, one along her jaw and face, the dreadful mark of which is plainly visible yet. They then, as they supposed, despatched the infant, put fire to the bedding, and with an oath fled hurriedly from the house. She lay upon the floor until her hair began to burn, when finding her infant still alive. She took it and sat it down outside of the burning house, and returned, and dragged out another child, whom she was unable, from a wound in her arm, to carry more than a few feet beyond the step of the door. There she left it, and proceeded stealthily along, faint and exhausted from the loss of blood, carrying her infant to a neighbor's house, about half a mile off, where she related the evidents of this terrible tragedy to the horror-stricken inmates.

The next morning the house was found burned to the ground, a dead child with a bullet hole through its breasts, lying near the step of the door, and the remains of three human bodies in the ashes of the house.

Polly Weston, the substance of whose narrative is given above, was proven to have been a common prostitute up to 1861 or '62, and to have cohabited with Silas Weston, the mulatto, who was the first victim of this murder, until about five months ago, when he procured a license and was sworn married by a magistrate, in McDowell county. There was proof, also, that since her marriage with Weston she had been a faithful wife to him, and had a good character in the neighborhood for truth and honesty. She swore positively that the parties on trial were the identical persons who committed the murder.

The defendants relied mainly upon proof of an alibi, and that the woman was mistaken in the men.

During the trial a startling incident occurred. Two men who were fighting in the street were arrested and brought into Court, one of them all covered with blood. Polly Weston, who was within the bar of the Court, no sooner saw the bloody man than she fell to the floor apparently dead, as if she had been shot through the heart. After some time, however, she recovered and was removed, but never afterwards was able to appear in Court.

The State was represented by Mr. Solicitor Henry Col. David Coleman, of Asheville, Messrs. W. L. Norwood, of Franklin, and M. H. Justice, of Rutherford. The defendants by Marcus Ervin and Messrs. J. L. Carson and J. M. Justice of Rutherford.

IMMIGRATION TO HENDERSON.

Quite a number of new comers have settled in Henderson within the last year. A good deal of property has been bought in the vicinity of Flat Rock, four miles South of this, which was in former times a sort of headquarters of the South Carolina planters and merchants of Chattanooga who had summer residences in the mountains. The new immigration was led here by a Mr. McLaughlin, a Scotsman, from Cleveland, Ohio, who is represented to be a former times a sort of head-quarters of other gentlemen of substance who followed him, and the prospect is good for a valuable addition to the wealth and population of this region of the State. There is no more beautiful country, no more salubrious climate anywhere than in Henderson county. The movement mentioned above will be productive of good results, no doubt, in a short time.

M. E. P. S.—Since the above was written, we learn the jury returned a verdict of guilty.